receiving an input object, wherein the received input object contains input data and one

input function executable on a computer;

A4

determining a type of the received input object;

based on the determined type, ascertaining whether the received input object satisfies one

or more predefined requirements; and

when it is ascertained that the received input object satisfies each predefined requirement,

executing the input function on a computer.

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are all the claims pending in the application.

Applicant amends claims 1, 11, 14 and 21 to be more definite and not to further narrow

the scope of the original claims. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 14 satisfies 35 U.S.C.

§112, second paragraph.

Applicant submits formal drawings and respectfully submits that the Draftperson's

objections noted on form PTO-948 attached to Paper No. 7, are obviated.

The Examiner rejects claims 1, 11 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable

over Dean in view of Smithies et al. ("Smithies"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection

at least because the asserted combination does not include all the limitations recited in the claims

and because the prior art does not teach or suggest combining the references as asserted in the

Office Action.

Claim 1 is directed to a method of producing an output object. The claim recites

receiving an input object, wherein the received input object contains input data and one input

function executable on a computer. The claim further recites determining a type of the received

input object and based on the determined type, ascertaining whether the received input object

satisfies one or more predefined requirements. If it is ascertained that the received input object

satisfies each predefined requirement, the input function is executed on a computer.

In the Office Action, Dean is relied on for receiving an input object containing input data

and one input function, determining a type of the received input object and executing the input

function. The Examiner admits that Dean fails to teach determining if the input object satisfies a

predetermined requirement and relies on Smithies to fulfill that deficiency. The position taken in

the Office Action is that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the

time of Applicant's invention to modify the teachings of Dean with the teachings of Smithies to

include ascertaining whether the received input object satisfies one or more predefined

requirements, and if it is ascertained that the received input object satisfies each predefined

requirements, executing the input function.

Even if there were a suggestion in the prior art to combine the teachings of Dean and

Smithies, which it is respectfully submitted there is not, such a combination would not satisfy all

the limitations of claims 1. This is because such a modified system simply does not include

receiving an input object that contains an input function executable on a computer. Neither Dean

nor Smithies, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests receiving an input object that

contains an input function executable on a computer in addition to data.

Dean discloses, as shown in Fig. 1, a client 10/11 that communicates with a transaction

processing system (CICS server 12) by way of a JAVA gateway 14. The client communicates

with the gateway by sending client request messages. The client includes a client-side request

object (see col. 2, 31-32 and col. 4, lines 1-2) that generates the client request message (see col.

4

2, lines 33-36 and 45-51). In the Office Action it is asserted that Dean's client-side request object corresponds to the claimed input object and that Dean's client request message contains input data and one input function as the claim requires of the input object. However, Dean's client request message, although generated by the client-side request object, is separate and distinct from the client-side request object. Accordingly, the client-side request object does not include the attributes of the client request message and does not satisfy all the limitations of the claimed input object. Further, even considering the attributes of Dean's client request message, it does not meet the limitations of the input object recited in claim 1. Although Dean's client message has two parts, both parts contain only data and neither part contains an input function executable on a computer, as required by claim 1. Dean at col. 2, lines 48-50, describes the first part of the client message containing a "request type" and the second part containing "request data". However, Dean neither teaches nor suggests that either the request type or the request data is an input function executable on a computer, as required by claim 1.

In the Office Action, Smithies is relied upon for disclosing the claim limitations of ascertaining whether the received input object satisfies one or more predefined requirements. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Smithies cannot be relied upon to fulfill the deficiencies in Dean. Smithies discloses a signature envelope 10 (see col. 7, line 48) that allegedly is used to determine if certain predefined requirements are met. However, Smithies neither teaches nor suggests that the signature envelope 10 contains an input function executable by a computer, as required by claim 1. It only contains data. See col. 9, lines 40-43, and col. 10 lines 28-49.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that even if the prior art is combined as asserted in the Office Action, the asserted combination would not include all the limitations

recited in the claims. For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the Dean/Smithies combination asserted in the Office Action does not render claim 1 unpatentable.
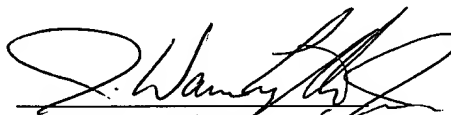
The remaining independent claims, 11 and 21, recite similar limitations to those discussed above in claim 1. Accordingly, the asserted Dean/Smithies combination also does not include all the limitations of independent claims 11 and 21, for at least the same reasons.

The remaining claims contain by reference all the limitations of one of claims 1, 11 and 21. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that those claims are not rendered unpatentable by a Dean/Smithies combination for at least the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to find the application in condition for allowance. However, if for any reason the Examiner believes that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned to resolve any issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time that may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-0460.

Respectfully submitted,

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